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Thus ridiculing the cause you advocate, and breaking the very main stay of your position.\*

I by no means however approve of Cobbett's reasoning (if such dashes merit such a name) which I think upon this subject is a mass of folly and indiscrimination; he says, "to a certain point the guinea will sink with the paper, but, *it will go no further*," I think this is indeed persecution to a very point, yes, wise-acre, and this world will exist to the very moment of dissolution, but—*no longer*; again, he says, "when the *trade of guineas* is well established," (that is, when felony becomes an open profession) "they will flock back again into this kingdom," I think sir the merchants of Belfast may *now* look for the second coming."

The very title of the investigation in Cobbett's register (*Jacobin guineas*) is sufficiently indicative of a *political* and not *commercial* inducement having at present agitated the subject.

And now Sir, allow me to ask; seriously to ask; are those the writers, whose charges you think the bank directors should sit down to answer? are the lucubrations of such anonymous declaimers, to be regarded, as the sentiments of the respectable and mercantile part of the community, *non tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis tempus eget*. I profess however a higher opinion of you, than to suppose you think with those writers, but you *should* have known the authorities before you made the reference.

To proceed with your analysis, you say the evils of the bank note system are all solvable into the ef-

fects of the restriction act which liberated the banks of England and Ireland from paying their notes in specie,—the *restriction* act, which *liberated*, have you no regard, sir, either to sense or sound, as well might you tell me, the *moral and restrictive* obligation which says "thou shalt not steal," *liberates* us from a pre-existing necessity for theft, or that the *penal* statutes of our municipal law, *exempts* the subject from an *imperative* obligation to be vicious,\* but sir in the words of my lord Littleton "I desire no stronger proof that an opinion *must* be false, than to find many absurdities in it."

To conclude, I do assert that under the existing charters, it is a downright impossibility that the paper of the national banks can be represented, but I am not to be answered by doling out a string of truisms. That, guineas would not be exported if there was not a motive.—That, the exporting them proves their increased value.—That they will pass on the Continent when bank notes will not, and such like; no sir, I am only to be refuted, in your own words, by the "omnipotence of truth," "*et quoddam dictamen rationis quo diriguntur humani actus*." I am Sir Yours, &c.

CHARLES WILLIAMS.

Colerain, December 9, 1809.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

THE ladies are all very much interested in a paper which appeared in the Belfast Magazine, entitled the "Court of Juno," you may therefore judge of our extreme disappointment in not seeing a continuation of it in the last number of that *valuable* publication. After thinking of innumerable plans to gain intelligence of the ambassador to the "Court of Juno," I thought it would be better to write to you for intelligence.

Imagination is always inclined to

\* The Reporter sees no cause to retract what he formerly advanced on this subject, nor does he think it necessary to repeat it again by way of having the last word.

COM. REPORTER.

\* Cobbett has since taken other grounds on this subject. But it is not necessary, to enter into an examination of the writers in the *Morning Chronicle*. The Reporter did not refer to them as authorities, but merely to show in answer to an objection of C. W's, that the subject did occupy public attention. It would needlessly prolong the controversy to examine the respective merits or demerits of these writers, who have advocated the different sides of the question.

COM. REPORTER.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XVIII.

magnify danger, and sometimes I thought the ambassador had been lost on his return from Juno; again I feared Venus and her nymphs had detained him on his return; sometimes I feared that Morpheus had laid such violent hands on him, that like the *great* Lord Chatham he had failed in his embassy, or had got into a trance—and sometimes—but why need I trouble you with conjectures, when I only wish to request you will be so good as to inform us what is become of him—as the answer he would receive from Juno would determine whether we were *tamely* to submit to be sold like cows, or other *live stock*, or assert our independence. This latter question has been much debated among the *fair sex*, (allow me sir to give ourselves this title, though some of us are any thing but fair) as some of us think we ought to be *timid*, gentle creatures, who could not walk across the street without assistance from the *lords of the creation*, and scream most loudly if we saw a bee fly near us (now sir this doctrine might do for the young and beautiful, but what will become of us who are old, ugly, and wrinkled,—) and be as unable to encounter the storms of life as the ivy could resist the elements without the assistance of the oak, or some other strong support—others think we ought to exert our energies, and think and act for ourselves, and do all in our power to make ourselves rational beings, fit to enjoy the conversation of the sensible and well informed, and act with becoming prudence our part on the great theatre of the world.

Now Mr. Editor, as our female logic is none of the best, or strongest, I submit these opinions to you, hoping you can solve our doubts and difficulties on the subject of female genius and talents. I hope you will be so kind as to inform us very speedily of the fate of the ambassador; I am willing to indulge hopes of his safety, as he had arrived at Minerva's island—Indeed if the last account had been from Venus's island, I should have been under some apprehensions for his safety, as Venus says she has no particular love for the Irish ladies, and she might have

endeavoured to give him an unfavourable impression of us—but upon second thoughts, even if Venus had detained him, Minerva, would, after taking him under her patronage, have exerted all her influence, to relieve him from Venus, as she did in days of yore, to rescue Telemachus from the fascinating charms of Calypso and her nymphs.

Now sir, as ignorance is thought by many lords of the creation, to be a necessary appendage to the female sex, I shall not trouble you with apologies either for my writing, spelling, or style (by the bye I have lost my spectacles, and am not much used to writing of late) as some glory in their ignorance, and why may not I be like my neighbours? If knowledge should become necessary to future females, I shall endeavour to have my nieces better educated than I was myself, but alas! I cannot undertake to make myself wiser, especially as I am rather too positive to change my opinion, and to confess the truth, when I do change my opinion, I do not like to acknowledge it, but in spite of conviction positively maintain the wrong, like many who pretend to more wisdom than I do—If the ambassador had not finished his embassy to Juno, I would have requested to know her opinion of female education, but I would willingly hope she would not order us to be such *vixens*, as she is herself; as the tongue ought rather to be employed as a *defensive* than an *offensive* weapon. Hoping you will excuse this trouble, and begging if you are a friend to the female sex you will put in this letter a few words in praise of the magazine, before you let any of the proprietors see my learned production, as I well know that they like other *literary* gentlemen, are not always able to resist the powerful influence of female flattery when it is judiciously administered.—If I accuse them of what they are not guilty, I will bear a reprimand. I am so rejoiced to think that I will see myself in print before I die, which I hope will not be very sudden, that the *cacoethes scribendi* (have I spelled that fine word right) has quite seized me, and I do

not know how much I might scribble, if I was not afraid to trespass too much on your patience. Sir, with the most profound respect to the Magazine company, I remain your humble servant.  
 TABITHA SIMPLE.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

IN obedience to Miss Tabitha's command, her letter has been forwarded to Nemorensis, who sends the annexed reply. The powerful adjuration towards the close of her letter, caused an eager search to find a compliment fit for insertion, according to her desire, but none could be discovered equal to her approbation expressed in her own language, and therefore it remains unaltered.—The alteration in the words *cacoethes scriblendi*, from the usual expression, is too happy to have been a mistake, in fact the *cacoethes* is much oftener that of *scriblendi* than of *scribendi*. It would be presumptuous to give opinions on the other delicate subjects on which she requires them, without more experience, but perhaps the Sage \*\*\*\*\* may be so obliging as to undertake the task, as he is a friend to the  
 B.M.M.

TO MISS TABITHA SIMPLE.

MADAM,

The isle of Venus is far remote: the residence of Minerva it is not my fate to visit so often as I could desire, and Morpheus, instead of detaining has been more desirous to dismiss me, than I could wish, on many nights of late. The causes for the delay of the Court of Juno, had no reference to these *ci devant* divinities, and were chiefly a fear of the former part not having been agreeable, where it was most desired it should be so, and that the rest would, besides having the same fate, seem too tedious from the extent necessary to complete the design, being so much greater than was first imagined; some private occurrences also I must own, unfitted my mind from attending to such subjects at the time.

I hope you will excuse my differing in opinion with you, on the peculiar sensibility of literary men to flattery? but if for this word you insert female approbation, the charge

will then be undeniable. What manly heart can be insensible to the good opinion of one or other of the fair sex? I know of none; and literary men can least of all be so, meeting as they do, in the course of their studies, such perpetual instances to remind them of the influence of the ladies; and for my part, of all the chapters of the bible, I believe that of Esdras most firmly, which so beautifully describes the power of women.

I shall now conclude with hoping that my obedience to your wishes, in continuing Juno, may have the good fortune to please you better than before. I am madam your most devoted servant,  
 NEMORENSIS.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

THE COURT OF JUNO....A VISION.

*Continued from No. XVI. p. 355.*

AFTER the tables were cleared, coffee was served in, and the ladies having taken a few dishes, separated to pursue various exercises and amusements in the open air, for the remainder of the afternoon. Some rode out in carriages, of the kind before mentioned, in various excursions to different parts of the island; others accompanied them on horseback; a third party furnished themselves with various fishing apparatus, and proceeded to a large lake, that extended from the extremity of an adjoining grove, to the residence of Diana, where a number of elegantly formed boats, were ready to receive them; which they managed with the greatest skill and dexterity; some skimming over the glassy expanse with extreme velocity, from the admirable construction of the boats, and formation of the sails; and others, for the sake of more healthful exercise, contending with light oars in various courses; and when sufficiently tired, amusing themselves with taking the finny prey, which the lake seemed to furnish in the greatest abundance. A third party preferred the more gentle exercise of walking, and divided for this purpose into several groups; some of which went to visit the favourite plants, which they cultivated in adjacent gardens; others to seek new plants,